

Message Text

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ACTION INR-10

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AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 2128

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: WARSAW PACT MEETING

REF: A) STATE 077855; B) WARSAW 2149

SUMMARY: AT APRIL 19 POLADS, ALLIANCE ADOPTED PRESS GUIDANCE FOR USE BY NATO PRESS SPOKESMAN AND RECOMMENDATION TO CAPITALS FOR RESPONSE ON AN "IF ASKED" BASIS TO THAT PART OF APRIL 18 WARSAW PACT (WP) COMMUNIQUE WHICH DECLARES READINESS TO DISSOLVE WP SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE DISSOLUTION OF NATO. END SUMMARY

1. AT APRIL 18 SPC MISSION DREW ON REF A AND DISTRIBUTED PROPOSED CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE USING POINTS A THROUGH D IN PARA 3 REF A, WITH POINT B MODIFIED AS SUGGESTED IN REF B. ON RECEIPT OF WIRE SERVICE REPORTS OF THE WP CONFERENCE COMMUNIQUE, SPECIAL MEETING OF POLADS WAS CONVENED ON APRIL 19 TO CONSIDER U.S. PROPOSED PRESS GUIDANCE.

2. REACTION OF COMMITTEE WAS FAVORABLE TO THE U.S. INITIATIVE. TEXT WAS APPROVED FOR USE BY THE NATO PRESS SPOKESMAN ON AN "IF ASKED" BASIS, AND WILL BE RECOMMENDED TO CAPITALS BY DELEGATIONS AS AGREED ALLIANCE GUIDANCE FOR USE AS SEEN FIT. CONFIDENTIAL

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MAJORITY OF COMMITTEE, NOTING WP COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE ON READINESS FOR MUTUAL DISSOLUTION WAS IN STANDARD TERMS AND TACKED ON TO THE END OF THE COMMUNIQUE ALMOST AS AN AFTERTHOUGHT, FELT ALLIANCE SHOULD NOT ISSUE FORMAL STATEMENT TO REPLY TO THE WP COMMUNIQUE,

BUT SHOULD DRAW ON GUIDANCE IN RESPONSE TO PRESS QUERIES.

3. ITALIANS PLAN TO USE POINTS B, C, AND D OF STATEMENT AND TO ADD REMARK ABOUT STABILIZING EFFECT OF AN EQUIVALANCE OF ARMED FORCES ON BOTH SIDES. DUTCH INTEND TO USE STATEMENT AND ADDITIONALLY CALL ATTENTION TO COMMUNIQUE STATEMENT THAT MEMBERS OF THE WP DEEM IT NECESSARY TO STRENGTHEN THEIR DEFENSE POTENTIAL. FRENCH HAD PREDICTABLE PROBLEMS WITH REFERENCE TO MBFR IN POINT C, AND TO USE OF WORD "INTEGRATED" IN POINT D, AND WILL ACT ACCORDINGLY.

4. COMMENT: MISSION APPRECIATES DEPARTMENT'S INITIATIVE IN PROVIDING THIS CONTINGENCY GUIDANCE WHICH ENABLED ALLIANCE TO CONSULT IN TIMELY FASHION ON THIS MATTER.RUMSFELD

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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